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CLERA DE LA CARRETTE CARRETTE

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

### FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Plaintiff,

V.

LOS ANGELES POLICE

**RECORDS** 

BRIESHANAY QUENISE FORD,

DEPARTMENT CUSTODIAN OF

Defendant.

Case No. 2:22-CR-00200-PA

NON-PARTY LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT'S NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO QUASH DEFENDANT'S SUBPOENAS; DECLARATIONS; EXHIBITS

[PROPOSED] ORDER FILED CONCURRENTLY

) DATE:

October 3, 2022

TIME:

3:00 p.m.

PLACE:

Courtroom 9A

First St. Courthouse 350 W. 1st Street

350 W. 1st Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Non-party.

## TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on October 3, 2022, at 3:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the courtroom of the Honorable Percy

Anderson, located at 350 W. First Street, Los Angeles, CA, 90012, Courtroom 9A, the Los Angeles Police Department will and hereby does move under Fed. R. Crim. P. 17(c) to quash defendant's subpoenas, issued on various dates (attached as Exhibits 1-3). LAPD's motion is based on this notice of motion and motion, the accompanying declarations of Chung H. Cho, James Sumbi, Detective David Vinton, exhibits, all other pleadings and papers on file in this case and such further evidence and argument as may be presented at or before the hearing on this matter. 8 Dated: September 2, 2022 Respectfully submitted, 10 MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney 11 CARLOS DE LA GUERRA, Sr. Assistant City Attorney 12 ANNETTE Y. LEE, Asst. City Attorney 13 14 By: CHUNG H. CHO, Deputy City Attorney 15 Attorneys for Non-party 16 LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT 17 **CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS** 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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### **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

#### I. INTRODUCTION

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The defendant issued three subpoenas to the Los Angeles Police Department ("LAPD"), which, combined, seek discovery of 40 different categories of records by September 6, 2022. Exhibits 1-3. Under Rule 17 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, on a motion promptly made, the court may quash a subpoena if compliance will be unreasonable and oppressive. Fed. R. Crim. P. 17(c). In this case, compliance with all three subpoenas will be unreasonable and oppressive. The subpoenas do not satisfy all of the requirements of *United States v. Nixon*, 418 U.S. 683 (1974). The subpoenas are overbroad and burdensome, and they are nothing more than a fishing expedition to conduct discovery. Accordingly, the court should quash all three subpoenas.

#### **RELEVANT FACTS** II.

The defendant has been charged with a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1), felon in possession of a firearm. Docket Item 1. The charge is based on the defendant's arrest by LAPD Officers Sanchez and Flores on November 23, 2021. Id. These LAPD officers conducted a traffic stop, and during the stop, Officer Sanchez found that there was a warrant for defendant's arrest. *Id*. Defendant also admitted that a hard object 19 inside her jeans was her "...strap". Id. Officer Flores subsequently recovered a Phoenix Arms, Model H22A, .22 caliber handgun from inside defendant's jeans, and defendant was arrested. *Id*. The criminal complaint in this case was supported by the affidavit of special agent Sarah J. Corcoran, and the defendant was arrested for this case on April 21, 2022. Docket Items 1, 36.

#### III. **SUBPOENAS**

The Los Angeles Police Department ("LAPD") received three subpoenas in this case beginning on August 15, 2022. Exhibits 1-3. The subpoena issued on August 15, 2022 ("First Subpoena") commands LAPD to produce 27 separate categories of record. Exhibit 1. The subpoena issued on August 17, 2022 ("Second Subpoena"), directs

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LAPD to produce 12 different categories of records. Exhibit 2. The defendant issued a third and final subpoena on August 25, 2022 ("Third Subpoena"), which seeks discovery of all forms of communications that LAPD Detective David Vinton may have had with the defendant and another individual at any time without limitation. Exhibit 3. All three subpoenas require compliance on September 6, 2022. Exhibits 1-3.

The First Subpoena includes an addendum that is four pages long. Exhibit 1. The addendum lists 27 separate requests, which are only marked by bullet points.

Declaration of Chung H. Cho; Exhibit 1. There are several requests that seek records concerning an open homicide investigation. *Id.* LAPD asserts the official information privilege for these requests because the records contain confidential information from the open homicide investigation. Declaration of David Vinton.

Requests 19-26 explicitly seek discovery of Detective Vinton's publicly available personnel records. Exhibit 1; Declaration of Chung H. Cho. In addition, there appear to be two catch-all requests (18 and 27) that seek discovery of basically any and all of Detective Vinton's personnel records. Request 18 seeks:

"any and all records of disciplinary proceedings, internal investigations, use of force reports, complaints, sustained complaints, sustained findings of unreasonable force or other misconduct, informal write-ups, or any other adverse administrative actions pertaining to Detective David Vinton." **Exhibit 1, p. 2**.

The last request, which also appears to be an instruction, recaps all the personnel records that LAPD is expected to produce. The last request states:

"Records produced shall include all investigative reports, photographic, audio, and video evidence; transcripts or recordings of interviews; autopsy reports; all materials compiled and presented for review to the district attorney or to any person or body charged with determining whether to file criminal charges against Detective David Vinton in connection with an incident, or whether Detective David Vinton's action was consistent with law and agency policy for purposes of discipline or administrative action, or what discipline to impose or corrective action to take; documents setting forth findings or recommended findings; and copies of disciplinary records relating to the incident, including

 any letters of intent to impose discipline, any documents reflecting modifications of discipline due to the Skelly or grievance process, and letters indicating final imposition of discipline or other documentation reflecting implementation of corrective action." **Exhibit 1, p. 3-4**.

The Second Subpoena seeks discovery of 12 separate categories of records. *Exhibit* 2. Most of the requests seek records that document Ms. Ford's arrest on April 21, 2022. Exhibit 2. One request, however, only seeks discovery of Detective Vinton's timesheet for that day. *Id.* The Second Subpoena further commands LAPD to produce any personal recordings captured on any officer's personal electronic device during the defendant's arrest, preliminary interview and interrogation on April 21, 2022. *Id.* 

Lastly, the Third Subpoena seeks discovery of "all text messages, call logs, emails, voicemails, and all other written or verbal communications between Detective David Vinton" and the defendant or Lakieta Phillips. Exhibit 3. The subpoena does not identify any specific time period, nor does it limit discovery to a specific subject matter. *Id*.

All three subpoenas are overbroad and burdensome, and given the sheer number of requests in the subpoenas, it is evident that defendant is fishing for discovery. *Id*. The subpoenas are also unduly burdensome because altogether, they require LAPD to search for and produce all responsive records for 40 different categories in about 3 weeks or less. Exhibits 1-3.

In addition, some of the records sought contain confidential information from an open homicide investigation. Exhibit 1. LAPD asserts the official information privilege as disclosure of any of these records will put witnesses in serious risk of harm and will destroy LAPD's ability to not only close the investigation but to arrest and charge the potential suspect(s). Declaration of David Vinton. Thus, all three subpoenas should be quashed.

#### IV. **ARGUMENT**

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All three subpoenas should be quashed because none satisfy the required showing under Nixon, 418 U.S. 683, 699-700 (1974). The party seeking records through a subpoena must demonstrate that the records sought are both relevant and admissible and must identify the records sought with specificity. Nixon, 418 U.S. at 700; United States v. Fields, 663 F2d 880 (9th Cir. 1981) (subpoenaed records must be admissible) (citing United States v. Cuthbertson, 651 F.2d 189, 195 (3d Cir. 1981) (party must demonstrate admissibility of subpoenaed records)).

To overcome the specificity requirement, the requests for records in the subpoena 10 must be particularized and must identify the records sought specifically. *United States v.* Reed, 726 F.2d 570, 577 (9th Cir. 1984). "The requirement of specificity is not satisfied if the defendants do not know what the evidence consists of or what it will show." United States v. Lee, No. 5:06-CR-0424 JW, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 24972, \*6 (N.D. Cal. March 18, 2009) (citing United States v. Aguilar, No. CR 07-0030 SBA, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 63114, \*17 (N.D. Cal. August 4, 2008).

A subpoena issued under Rule 17 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure cannot be used to obtain discovery. Bowman Dairy Co. v. United States, 341 U.S. 214, 220-221 (1951). "Rule 17 (c) was not intended to provide an additional means of discovery. Its chief innovation was to expedite the trial by providing a time and place before trial for the inspection of the subpoenaed materials." Bowman Dairy Co., 314 U.S. at 220. Thus, a Rule 17 subpoena that appears to be a fishing expedition is not valid. Bowman Dairy Co., 314 U.S. at 221; Nixon, 418 U.S at 699-700. "Rule 17(c) was not intended to... 'allow a blind fishing expedition seeking unknown evidence'." Reed, 726 F.2d 570, 577 (9th Cir. 1984) (quoting United States v. MacKey, 647 F.2d. 898, 901 (9th Cir. 1981)).

The defendant must further show that the records are not otherwise procurable reasonably in advance of trial by exercise of due diligence. Nixon, 418 U.S. at 699. The defendant must demonstrate that she cannot "properly prepare for trial without such

production and inspection in advance of trial" and that the failure to obtain the records may unreasonably delay trial. *Id*.

It is also accepted that a subpoena may be issued "for the determination of an issue of fact raised by a pre-trial motion". 2 Charles A. Wright, et al., Federal Practice and Procedure § 272 (4th ed. 2022). If a subpoena is issued to obtain evidence for a pre-trial motion, then it should follow that defendant has a duty to show that the records are not procurable reasonably in advance of the hearing for the pre-trial motion.

In addition, compliance with all three subpoenas will be unreasonable and oppressive on other grounds. All three subpoenas are overbroad and burdensome. They all attempt to require LAPD to search for, identify and produce responsive records for a combined 40 different categories of records in about 3 weeks. Exhibits 1-3. The Third Subpoena specifically requires LAPD to search for, identify and produce the responsive records in less than 2 weeks. Exhibit 3. Some of the records sought contain confidential information regarding LAPD's open homicide investigation. LAPD asserts the official information privilege for these records as disclosure at this time will irreparably damage LAPD's ability to resolve the investigation and will put the lives of witnesses in grave danger. Declaration of Detective Vinton.

# A. The First Subpoena should be quashed because it does not satisfy the requirements of *Nixon*.

Defendant has the burden to demonstrate that the subpoenaed records are both relevant and admissible. *Nixon*, 418 U.S. at 699. The *Nixon* standard for admissibility and relevance applies to subpoenas issued to non-parties. *Fields*, 663 F.2d at 881. Evidence is relevant if "it has any tendency to make any fact more probable or less probable than it would be without the evidence and the fact is of consequence in determining an action." Fed. R. Evid. 401. The Federal Rules of Evidence dictate whether evidence is admissible. *United States Pac. Gas & Elec. Co.* 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 78798 (N.D. Cal. 2016) (citing *United States v. Libby*, 432 F. Supp. 2d 26, 31 (D.D.C. 2006)). In this case, it does not appear that defendant can demonstrate that all

of the requested records are both relevant and admissible.

None of the records sought appear to be both relevant and admissible for the determination of any issues of fact raised by her motion to dismiss for vindictive prosecution. For example, some requests seek records related to LAPD's open homicide investigation. Exhibit 1. The details of this open homicide investigation have bearing on whether the government is prosecuting her impermissibly. The subpoena also seeks discovery of a surveillance video of the defendant providing buccal swabs after her arrest on December 14, 2021. Exhibit 1. Surveillance videos of defendant providing buccal swabs relevant to any factual issues that will be relevant to the defendant's motion to dismiss for vindictive prosecution. Moreover, Detective Vinton's personnel records are not relevant and admissible to any issues raised in defendant's motion to dismiss. For example, records related to any sustained finding that Detective Vinton may have sexually assaulted a member of the public are simply not relevant to the determination of any factual issues raised in defendant's motion to dismiss.

In addition, the First Subpoena fails to meet the specificity requirement of *Nixon*. The defendant requests 27 different categories of records that basically seek all potential records that may exist. Many of the requests seek "all" records for expansive categories of records. All the requests that seek discovery of Detective Vinton's personnel records request "any and all" types of records, which, according to the last request, includes a broad range of records. Exhibit 1, p. 3.

The subpoena further requests that LAPD create a variety of lists:

- 1. list of persons Detective Vinton referred for federal prosecution,
- 2. list of persons interrogated by Detective Vinton,
- 3. list of persons Detective Vinton interrogated for the open homicide investigation,
- 4. list of all persons LAPD arrested and interrogated who would have qualified for federal prosecution under 18 USC § 922(g) but who were

not referred, and

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5. list of all persons with the same parameters above but who were referred for federal prosecution. Exhibit 1, p. 2.

First, LAPD does not maintain a database of every arrestee who qualified for federal prosecution and who was or was not referred for federal prosecution. Affidavit of James Sumbi. LAPD also does not maintain a database of every interrogation that a specific officer may have conducted. *Id.* Second, assuming LAPD even had these types of databases, this type of information is not relevant or admissible for a motion for dismissal based on a theory of vindictive prosecution.

# 1. Some of the records are easily procurable by the defendant from another source.

Defendant cannot show that the records are not procurable reasonably in advance of the hearing for her motion to dismiss when sought with due diligence. Defendant dedicates 10 requests to Detective Vinton's personnel records, 8 of which are available to the public under the California Public Records Act ("CPRA"). Cal. Penal Code § 832.7(b) (Deering 2022). It appears that defendant simply copied the language found in California Penal Code Section 832.7(b), which identifies all the different types of personnel complaints that are now public records and available through a simple CPRA request. For example, one request seeks discovery of "any and all records relating to any incident in which a sustained finding was made by any law enforcement agency or oversight agency that Detective David Vinton engaged in sexual assault involving a member of the public". Exhibit 1. Cal. Penal Code Section 832.7(b)(1)(B)(i) (Deering 2022) states: "Any record relating to an incident in which a sustained finding was made by any law enforcement agency or oversight agency that a peace officer or custodial officer engaged in sexual assault involving a member of the public." Other than a couple of replacements, the description in the subpoena is directly copied from the language found in Cal. Penal Code Section 832.7(b)(1)(B)(i); these records are public records which are available

through CPRA. Cal. Penal Code § 832.7 (b)(1).

Moreover, defendant's investigator confirms that he has already received records in response to his CPRA request, but he is concerned about the completeness of the disclosure. Docket Item 36, Declaration of Ryan Jewetz, p. 1, ¶ 8. A lack of confidence with the completeness of the records already received from another source does not constitute an inability to procure the records reasonably in advance of trial. Since defendant has already received publicly available personnel records through her investigator's request, defendant cannot demonstrate that the records sought are not procurable reasonably in advance of the hearing on her motion to dismiss under *Nixon*.

In addition, LAPD's policy manual is available on LAPD's website, and defendant can search for "LAPD's policies and recommended procedures following an interrogated person's invocation of their Fifth Amendment rights" and "Documentation regarding all LAPD policies on when to make referrals to the United States Attorney's Office or federal law enforcement agencies for federal prosecution". Exhibit 1. Thus, the subpoena should be quashed for those records defendant was able to procure reasonably in advance of the hearing for her motion to dismiss.

# 2. Many of the personnel records are confidential and must be reviewed in camera before disclosure can be ordered.

When subpoenaed records are privileged under state law, the court must review the records in camera and determine whether disclosure is warranted. *Pennsylvania v. Ritchie*, 480 U.S. 39 (1987). In *Pennsylvania v. Ritchie*, 480 U.S. 39, the defendant issued a subpoena for state child abuse records, privileged under Pennsylvania law, to obtain *Brady* material. *Id.* at 43. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court held that defendant's attorney was entitled to access the entire file. *Id.* at 46. The United States Supreme Court, however, reversed, in part, and held that defendant's right to discover *Brady* material did not also give him the right to review, without restriction, a confidential file to search for *Brady* material. *Id.* at 59. The Supreme Court further held that when records are privileged under state law, the trial court must review the records in camera

and determine what records, if any, should be disclosed. *Id.* at 60-61. In the Ninth Circuit, a prosecutor's duty to examine law enforcement personnel records does not extend to state law enforcement records, and a district court does not have the authority to order a prosecutor to inspect state law enforcement personnel records for *Brady* material. *United States v. Dominguez-Villa*, 954 F.2d 562, 566 (9th Cir. 1992).

Under California law, some police personnel records are confidential and are not subject to discovery until parties seeking disclosure satisfy all requirements of California Evidence Code Section 1043. Cal. Penal Code § 832.7(a); Warrick v. Superior Court, 112 P.3d 2 (2005). The qualified privilege is held both by the officer and the law enforcement agency. Davis v. City of Sacramento, 24 Cal.App.4th 393, 401 (Cal. Ct. App. 1994) citing San Francisco Police Officers' Ass'n v. Superior Court, 202 Cal.App.3d 183, 189 (Cal. Ct. App. 1988). In the First Subpoena, there are two requests that appear to seek discovery of Detective Vinton's confidential personnel records. Exhibit 1. The court must review Detective Vinton's confidential personnel records in camera and determine what records if any are subject to disclosure. If after in camera review, the court orders any disclosure, LAPD requests that a protective order be issued. LAPD will submit a [proposed] protective order if the court orders an in camera review.

## 3. The subpoena is overbroad and burdensome.

The First Subpoena is unequivocally overbroad and burdensome. For example, the subpoena attempts to compel LAPD to search for and produce any and all of Detective Vinton's personnel records for any and all internal investigations regarding any alleged misconduct from the beginning of Detective Vinton's career. Detective Vinton has been a detective for 28 years, so the scope of production will be, at minimum, 28 years. Exhibit 1; Declaration of David Vinton. The subpoena does not delineate any specific time periods. In addition, none of the lists of persons sought are limited to any identifiable period of time. Exhibit 1.

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# 4. The First Subpoena is nothing more than a fishing expedition to conduct discovery.

The First Subpoena unquestionably evidences defendant's attempt to obtain discovery in a prohibited fishing expedition. This subpoena, alone, has 27 separate requests that each seek a broad category of records, rather than specific documents. Exhibit 1. Moreover, none of the requests limit the scope of records sought to any identifiable and reasonable period of time. The last request even broadly instructs LAPD that it is expected to produce a long list of various types of records for all the requests for personnel records. *Id.* Plus, many of the requests are for "all" records or "any and all" records, which are classic examples of fishing expedition that is not prohibited under *Nixon. Reed*, 726 F.2d at 577. The First Subpoena should, thus, be quashed as it appears to be a prohibited fishing expedition for unknown evidence.

# B. The Second Subpoena should also be quashed because compliance will be unreasonable and oppressive.

Compliance with the Second Subpoena will be unreasonable and oppressive because the defendant cannot show that the records sought are relevant, admissible and specifically particularized. *Nixon*, 418 U.S. at 700; *Reed*, 726 F.2d at 577. In addition, the subpoena is overbroad in scope. The Second Subpoena is nothing more than a "blind fishing expedition seeking unknown evidence." *Reed*, 726 F.2d at 577.

# 1. The records sought are not relevant and admissible for defendant's motion to dismiss for vindictive prosecution.

None of the records sought qualify as relevant and admissible evidence for defendant's motion to dismiss. Docket Item 36. Defendant seeks discovery for 12 different categories of records. Exhibit 2. The first request seeks "[a]ny records regarding the hours worked on April 21, 2022, by LAPD Detective David Vinton (i.e. the time his shift began and ended)". *Id.* The start and end times of Detective Vinton's shift for this particular day does not constitute relevant or admissible evidence for any issues for defendant's motion to dismiss or for trial. In another request, defendant seeks

discovery of "[a]ll LAPD Digital In-Car Video (DICV) recordings in their native file format...for all officers or employees, including LAPD Detective David Vinton and any other officers not previously identified, who were present for the arrest, preliminary interview, or interrogation of Brieshanay Ford on April 21, 2022..." Exhibit 2, p. 2. DICV recordings of any police vehicle are not relevant and admissible evidence for the determination of any factual issues for defendant's motion to dismiss or for trial.

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### The Second Subpoena is overbroad and burdensome.

Defendant is attempting to conduct discovery for unknown evidence through the Second Subpoena, which is prohibited as a fishing expedition. The request for DICV records, as discussed above, does not limit disclosure to records that mention the defendant only. Exhibit 2. Other requests do not limit the scope of discovery to records that mention or involve the defendant. Id. Moreover, only the request seeking Detective Vinton's timesheet limits the scope to a specific time period.

In addition, as written, the request for DICV recordings does not make sense; if an LAPD officer was present for the defendant's arrest, interview or interrogation, his car would not have any DICV recording for that specific period. In addition, according to defendant's motion to dismiss, she was arrested at the Van Nuys courthouse when she appeared for her state criminal case. Docket Item 36. There are two court buildings in Van Nuys; one for criminal cases exclusively (Van Nuys West) and one dedicated to civil cases (Van Nuys East). Declaration of Chung H. Cho. It is not clear where precisely the defendant was arrested, but if she was arrested inside Van Nuys West, there would have been many LAPD police officers in this court building as it is dedicated to criminal cases exclusively. According to the Second Subpoena, LAPD will have to identify all of the officers who may have had an appearance at Van Nuys West on April 21, 2022, and confirm with each and every officer whether he was present at the time defendant was arrested. Then, LAPD will have to search for and produce the DICV, body worn video, Daily Field Activity Reports, and other records for every one of these officers for an unclear period of time. Exhibit 2. It does not appear that all of these

records for any and all officers who may have been present in a criminal court building at the time defendant as arrested will be relevant and admissible. Thus, the Second Subpoena should be quashed because it is overbroad and burdensome, and defendant is conducting a fishing expedition for unknown evidence.

# 3. The Second Subpoena should be quashed because it is a fishing expedition to discover unknown evidence.

The Second Subpoena should be quashed because it appears to be a fishing expedition. *Bowman Dairy Co.*, 314 U.S. at 221; *Nixon*, 418 U.S at 699-700. Most of the requests seek "all" records of various types, including dispatch records, body worn video recordings, Digital In-Car Video for Detective Vinton and any officer who may have been present for the defendant's arrest, preliminary interview or interrogation on April 21, 2022. Exhibit 2. None of these records appear to be relevant and admissible for the determination of any issues of fact for defendant's motion to dismiss for vindictive prosecution. In addition, none of the requests clearly identify the period of time for which the records are sought. This subpoena should be quashed because it appears to be a fishing expedition.

# C. The Third Subpoena should be quashed because the subpoena does not overcome the requirements of *Nixon*.

Under *Nixon*, defendant must explain the relevancy and admissibility of the records sought in the Third Subpoena. *Nixon*, 483 U.S. at 700. Defendant must also describe the specific documents sought. *Reed*, 726 F.2d at 577. In this case, all communications between the defendant and Detective Vinton and Detective Vinton and Lakieta Phillips for an undefined period of time are not relevant and admissible for the determination for issues of fact for defendant's motion to dismiss for vindictive prosecution.

In addition, the defendant can procure documentation of her communications with Detective Vinton by searching through her own text messages, call logs, emails, voicemails and all other communications that she may have had with

Detective Vinton. It is incongruous that defendant attempts to compel LAPD to produce records she can access herself. The request is even more outrageous given that the defendant included a copy of an alleged text communication from Detective Vinton as an exhibit to her motion to dismiss for vindictive prosecution. Docket Item 36-7. Thus, the Third Subpoena should be quashed as the records sought are directly procurable by the defendant.

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#### LAPD asserts the official information privilege for any records that D. contain information about LAPD's open homicide investigation.

"Federal common law recognizes a qualified privilege for official information." 10 Soto v. City of Concord, 162 F.R.D. 603, 613 (N.D. Cal. 1995) (citing Kerr v. U.S. Dist. Ct. for the Northern Dist., 511 F.2d 192, 198 (N.D. Cal. 1975)). The government entity invoking the privilege must make a "substantial threshold showing" by submitting a declaration or affidavit from a designated official "with personal knowledge of the matters to be attested to..." Soto v. City of Concord, 162 F.R.D. at 613 (citing Kelly v. City of San Jose, 147 F.R.D. 653, 669 (N.D. Cal. 1987)). The courts will then balance 16|| the interests of the party seeking discovery against the interests of the governmental entity asserting the privilege on a case by case basis. Id. (citing Kelly v. City of San Jose, 114 F.R.D. at 660; Miller v. Pancucci, 141 F.R.D. at 300; Hampton v. City of San Diego, 147 F.R.D. at 230-31; Sanchez v. City of Santa Ana, 936 F.2d 1027, 1033-34 (9th Cir. 1990)).

The affidavit from the agency official must include: "(1) an affirmation that the agency generated or collected the material in issue and has in fact maintained its confidentiality, (2) a statement that the official has personally reviewed the material in question, (3) a specific identification of the governmental or privacy interests that would be threatened by disclosure of the material to the plaintiff and/or his lawyer, (4) a description of how disclosure subject to a carefully crafted protective order would create a substantial risk of harm to significant governmental or privacy interest, and (5) a projection of how much harm would be done to the threatened interests if the disclosure

was made." (Soto v. City of Concord, 162 F.R.D. at 613 (citing Kelly v. City of San Jose, 114 F.R.D. at 670)).

In this case, the First Subpoena seeks production of "[p]olice reports, and all written documents, pertaining to an alleged homicide forming the basis of arrest of Brieshanay Ford (female, DOB...) on December 14, 2021... Exhibit 1. In addition, the subpoena requests "[c]opies of all communications between Detective Vinton (or any other law enforcement officer) and any local district attorney who was involved in Ms. Ford's Dec. 14 arrest". Exhibit 1. Detectives David Vinton is one of the investigating officers assigned to the open homicide investigation the records for which are sought in the First Subpoena. Declaration of David Vinton; Exhibit 1. Detective Vinton has the authority to assert the privilege on behalf of the LAPD as one of the assigned investigators. Declaration of David Vinton.

Disclosure of any records from the open homicide investigation will damage LAPD's ability to conclude its investigation and to arrest the potential suspect(s). Declaration of David Vinton. Disclosure of any information from the investigation will endanger the lives of all the witnesses who have spoken to LAPD. *Id.* Their safety is at substantial risk if the defendant learns who spoke with LAPD and what they spoke about. Id. The substantial danger these witnesses will face once the defendant in this case finds out who they are and what they've said cannot be overstated. *Id.* Moreover, there is a substantial risk of gang retaliation if the witnesses' identities are exposed. *Id.* The witnesses' lives will be in peril if the records from the open homicide investigation are disclosed. *Id.* 

In contrast, these records will not provide defendant with any evidence that is both relevant and admissible to any issues that may be litigated for defendant's motion to dismiss for vindictive prosecution. *Nixon*, 418 U.S. at 700-702. On balance, the risk of irreversible damage to LAPD's investigation together with the serious danger that the witnesses will experience significantly outweigh the defendant's need for disclosure in this case. Thus, LAPD requests that the Court find that the official information privilege

protects the confidentiality of these records and quash the First Subpoena.

#### V. **CONCLUSION**

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LAPD respectfully requests that all three subpoenas be quashed. None of the records sought will be relevant and admissible to any issues related to defendant's motions to dismiss for vindictive prosecution. The subpoenas also do not describe any of the evidence sought with the requisite specificity. The subpoenas are overbroad and burdensome as there are a combined 40 different requests for records. The subpoenas are so overbroad, defendant is undoubtedly conducting a fishing expedition to attempt to gain discovery of unknown evidence that she hopes will be helpful to her motion. Moreover, defendant can easily obtain some of the requested records through the internet and through other sources, including her own phone and email. Lastly, some records contain confidential information from an open homicide investigation, and disclosure of these records will irreparably damage LAPD's ability to solve the investigation, and more significantly, witness lives will be in danger. For all the foregoing reasons, all three subpoenas should be quashed because compliance will be oppressive and 16 unreasonable.

Dated: September 2, 2022 Respectfully submitted,

> MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney CARLOS DE LA GUERRA, Sr. Assistant City Attorney ANNETTE Y. LEE, Asst. City Attorney

By:

CHUNG H. CHO, Deputy City Attorney Attorneys for Non-party LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT **CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS** 

27 28 Attorney's Name, Address & Phone: Waseem Salahi Deputy Federal Public Defender 321 East 2nd St. Los Angeles, CA 90012 (213) 894-2922 RECEIVED LAPD

AUG 15 2022

(213) 074 2722	A0029 2022	
	LEGAL AFFAIRS DIVISION 7	
UNITED STATES D CENTRAL DISTRICT		
United States of America	CASE NUMBER 2:22-cr-00200-PA	
PLAINTIFF		
V.		
Brieshanay Quenise Ford		
	SUBPOENA IN A CRIMINAL CASE	
DEFENDANT(S)		
TO: Los Angeles Police Department Custodian of Records  YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear in to specified below to testify in the above case.	he United States District Court at the place, date and time	
Place: First Street Courthouse, 350 W. 1st Street, 9th Floor, I	os Angeles, CA 90012 , Courtroom: 9A	
Date: September 6, 2022 , Time: 3:00pm	·	
YOU ARE ALSO COMMANDED to bring with you	the following document(s) or object(s):	

King K. Lang



8/15/22	
Date	 

Kiry K. Gray, Clerk of Court

See addendum

# Addendum

Please produce the following items:

- Police reports, and all written documents, pertaining to an alleged homicide forming the basis of arrest of Brieshanay Ford (female, DOB on December 14, 2021 (the "Dec. 14 arrest");
- All written or verbal communications between any law enforcement officer and federal agent or prosecutor regarding this alleged homicide and Ms. Ford's alleged involvement;
- All text messages, call logs, emails, voicemails, and all other written or verbal communications between FBI Special Agent Sarah Corcoran (or any other federal law enforcement officer) and LAPD Detective David Vinton (or any other state law enforcement officer), regarding Ms. Ford and the decision to refer her for federal criminal prosecution, or confirm that no such communications exist;
- Copies of all communications between any federal prosecutor and any federal or state law enforcement officer regarding Ms. Ford, including communications related to the LAPD's homicide investigation, or confirm that no such communications exist;
- Audio or video recordings of Ms. Ford's interrogations after her Dec. 14 arrest;
- A copy of the affidavit supporting probable cause for Ms. Ford's Dec. 14 arrest and the search of her residence and/or personal property;
- Copies of all transportation logs showing where Ms. Ford was placed between Dec. 14 and Dec. 16, 2021;
- Copies of surveillance footage depicting Ms. Ford providing buccal swabs after the Dec. 14 arrest;
- Copies of all communications between Detective Vinton (or any other law enforcement officer) and any local district attorney who was involved in Ms. Ford's Dec. 14 arrest;

- Body camera footage of all interactions with Ms. Ford during and after her Dec. 14 arrest;
- Documentation regarding all LAPD policies on when to make referrals to the United States Attorney's Office or federal law enforcement agencies for federal prosecution;
- A list of all persons referred by Detective Vinton for federal prosecution;
- A list of all persons interrogated by Detective Vinton;
- A list of all persons interrogated by Detective Vinton in connection with the homicide at issue here;
- A list of all persons the LAPD arrested and interrogated who would have qualified for federal prosecution under 18 USC § 922(g) but were not referred for federal prosecution;
- A list of all persons the LAPD arrested and interrogated who would have qualified for federal prosecution under 18 USC § 922(g) and were in fact referred for federal prosecution;
- LAPD policies and recommended procedures following an interrogated person's invocation of their Fifth Amendment rights;
- Any and all records of disciplinary proceedings, internal investigations, use
  of force reports, complaints, sustained findings of unreasonable force or
  other misconduct, informal write-ups, or any other adverse administrative
  actions pertaining to Detective David Vinton;
- Any and all records relating to the report, investigation, or findings of any
  incident involving the discharge of a firearm at a person by Detective David
  Vinton;
- Any and all records relating to the report, investigation, or findings of any
  incident in which the use of force by Detective David Vinton against a
  person resulted in death, or in great bodily injury;
- Any and all records relating to any incident in which a sustained finding
  was made by any law enforcement agency or oversight agency involving a
  complaint that alleges unreasonable or excessive force by Detective David
  Vinton;

- Any and all records relating to any incident in which a sustained finding
  was made by any law enforcement agency or oversight agency that
  Detective David Vinton failed to intervene against another officer using
  force that is clearly unreasonable or excessive force;
- Any and all records relating to any incident in which a sustained finding
  was made by any law enforcement agency or oversight agency that
  Detective David Vinton engaged in sexual assault involving a member of
  the public;
- Any and all records relating to any incident in which a sustained finding
  was made by any law enforcement agency or oversight agency of
  dishonesty by Detective David Vinton directly relating to the reporting,
  investigation, or prosecution of a crime, or directly relating to the reporting
  of, or investigation of misconduct by, another peace officer or custodial
  officer, including, but not limited to, any sustained finding of perjury, false
  statements, filing false reports, destruction, falsifying, or concealing of
  evidence;
- Any and all records relating to an incident in which a sustained finding was
  made by any law enforcement agency or oversight agency that Detective
  David Vinton engaged in conduct including, but not limited to, verbal
  statements, writings, online posts, recordings, and gestures, involving
  prejudice or discrimination against a person on the basis of race, religious
  creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability,
  medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender
  identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, or military and veteran
  status;
- Any and all records relating to an incident in which a sustained finding was
  made by any law enforcement agency or oversight agency that Detective
  David Vinton made an unlawful arrest or conducted an unlawful search;
- Records produced shall include all investigative reports; photographic, audio, and video evidence; transcripts or recordings of interviews; autopsy reports; all materials compiled and presented for review to the district attorney or to any person or body charged with determining whether to file criminal charges against Detective David Vinton in connection with an incident, or whether Detective David Vinton's action was consistent with law and agency policy for purposes of discipline or administrative action, or what discipline to impose or corrective action to take; documents setting

forth findings or recommended findings; and copies of disciplinary records relating to the incident, including any letters of intent to impose discipline, any documents reflecting modifications of discipline due to the Skelly or grievance process, and letters indicating final imposition of discipline or other documentation reflecting implementation of corrective action.

**END** 

Attorney's Name, Address & Phone: Waseem Salahi Deputy Federal Public Defender 321 East 2nd St. Los Angeles, CA 90012 (213) 894-2922 LEGAL AFFAIRS DIVISION DISCOVERY SECTION UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CASE NUMBER United States of America **PLAINTIFF** 2:22-cr-00200-PA v. Brieshanay Quenise Ford SUBPOENA IN A CRIMINAL CASE DEFENDANT(S) TO:Los Angeles Police Department Custodian of Records YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear in the United States District Court at the place, date and time specified below to testify in the above case. Place: First Street Courthouse, 350 W. 1st Street, 9th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012 , Courtroom: 9A Date: September 6, 2022 , Time: 3:00pm YOU ARE ALSO COMMANDED to bring with you the following document(s) or object(s): See addendum 8/17/22 Kiry K. Gray, Clerk of Court Date

## Addendum

Please produce the following items:

- Any records regarding the hours worked on April 21, 2022 by LAPD Detective David Vinton (i.e., the time his shift began and ended);
- Any police reports or handwritten written notes drafted by LAPD Detective David Vinton on April 21, 2022 relating to Brieshanay Ford;
- All LAPD Car to Car Mobile Data Computer (MDC) GPS Location
   Coordinates history, for all vehicles including any belonging to LAPD
   Detective David Vinton and any other officers not previously identified,
   who were present for the arrest, preliminary interview, or interrogation of
   Brieshanay Ford on April 21, 2022 at the Van Nuys Courthouse or Van
   Nuys Community Police Station;
- All LAPD Daily Field Activity Reports (DFAR) and the assigned vehicle radio identifier with shop number for all officers, including LAPD Detective David Vinton and any other officers not previously identified, who were present for the arrest, preliminary interview, or interrogation of Brieshanay Ford on April 21, 2022 at the Van Nuys Courthouse or Van Nuys Community Police Station;
- All audio or video recordings of any interviews, interrogations, or conversations with Ms. Ford on April 21, 2022.
- Any LAPD Dispatch and/or Tactical radio channel recordings in their native file format with metadata from April 21, 2022 at 6am to 12pm, regarding calls for service or investigative activity involved in the investigation and/or arrest of Brieshanay Ford on April 21, 2022;
- All LAPD Body Worn Camera (BWC) recordings in their native file format
  with original file names and metadata for all officers or employees,
  including LAPD Detective David Vinton, the Van Nuys Station watch
  commander, and any other officers not previously identified, who were
  present for the arrest, preliminary interview, or interrogation of Brieshanay
  Ford on April 21, 2022 at the Van Nuys Courthouse or Van Nuys
  Community Police Station;

- All LAPD Chain of Custody Records and Reports for all Body Worn
  Camera (BWC) recordings in their native file format with original file
  names and metadata for all officers or employees, including LAPD
  Detective David Vinton, the Van Nuys Station watch commander, and any
  other officers not previously identified, who were present for the arrest,
  preliminary interview, or interrogation of Brieshanay Ford on April 21,
  2022 at the Van Nuys Courthouse or Van Nuys Community Police Station;
- All LAPD Personal Non-Departmental Body Worn Audio or Video Recording Device recordings in their native file format with original file names and metadata for all officers or employees, including LAPD Detective David Vinton, the Van Nuys Station watch commander, and any other officers not previously identified, who were present for the arrest, preliminary interview, or interrogation of Brieshanay Ford on April 21, 2022 at the Van Nuys Courthouse or Van Nuys Community Police Station;
- All LAPD Digital In-Car Video (DICV) recordings in their native file
  format with original file names and metadata for all officers or employees,
  including LAPD Detective David Vinton and any other officers not
  previously identified, who were present for the arrest, preliminary
  interview, or interrogation of Brieshanay Ford on April 21, 2022 at the Van
  Nuys Courthouse or Van Nuys Community Police Station;
- All LAPD Digital In-Car Video (DICV) Chain of Custody Records and Reports for all DICV recordings in their native file format with original file names and metadata, for all officers or employees, including LAPD Detective David Vinton and any other officers not previously identified, who were present for the arrest, preliminary interview, or interrogation of Brieshanay Ford on April 21, 2022 at the Van Nuys Courthouse or Van Nuys Community Police Station;
- All LAPD Car-to-Car and/or Station- to-Car Mobile Data Computer (MDC) Messages, for all officers or employees, including LAPD Detective David Vinton and any other officers not previously identified, who were present for the arrest, preliminary interview, or interrogation of Brieshanay Ford on April 21, 2022 at the Van Nuys Courthouse or Van Nuys Community Police Station;

**END** 

Case 2:22-cr-00200-PA Document 50	Filed 09/02/22 Page 32 of 41 Page ID #:712		
Attorney's Name, Address & Phone:	CLEAR FORM		
Waseem Salahi	RECEIVED RMM T		
Deputy Federal Public Defender	RECEIVED RYMJ AUG 25 2022 WIN		
321 East 2nd St.	AUG 25 2022 Win		
Los Angeles, CA 90012	0.1		
(213) 894-2922	LEGALAFFAIRS DIVISION C L DISCOVERY SECTION		
	DISTRICT COURT TO F CALIFORNIA		
United States of America	CASE NUMBER		
PLAINTIFF	2:22-cr-00200-PA		
V.	<i>E.22-</i> C1-00200-111		
Brieshanay Quenise Ford			
	SUBPOENA IN A CRIMINAL CASE		
DEFENDANT(S)			
Place: First Street Courthouse, 350 W. 1st Street, 9th Floor, Date: September 6, 2022 , Time: 3:00pm  YOU ARE ALSO COMMANDED to bring with your All text messages, call logs, emails, voicemails, and all other verbal communications between Detective David Vinton and	u the following document(s) or object(s): written or		
All text messages, call logs, emails, voicemails, and all other verbal communications between Detective David Vinton an			

Kiry K. Gray, Clerk of Court



8/25/22	
Date	 

## **DECLARATION OF CHUNG H. CHO**

I, CHUNG H. CHO, declare as follows:

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- I am an attorney at law, duly licensed to practice law in all the courts of the State of California. I am employed as a Deputy City Attorney for the City of Los Angeles in the Police Discovery Section, and I am the attorney for non-party Los Angeles Police Department ("LAPD") Custodian of Records. I have personal knowledge of the information set forth below, except those items set forth on information and belief, and as to those items, I believe them to be true;
- Attached as **Exhibit 1** is a true and correct copy of the subpoena that was 2. issued on August 15, 2022. I counted 27 requests in the addendum;
- Attached as **Exhibit 2** is a true and correct copy of the subpoena that was 3. issued on August 17, 2022. I counted 12 requests in the addendum; 12||
  - Attached as **Exhibit 3** is a true and correct copy of the subpoena that was 4. issued on August 25, 2022. This subpoena does not have an addendum, and it has two requests.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America and the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed September 2, 2022 at Los Angeles, California

CHUNG H. CHO, Declarant

### **AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES SUMBI**

I, JAMES SUMBI, attest as follows:

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- 1. I am employed as a Management Analyst by the Los Angeles Police Department and assigned to the Risk Management and Legal Affairs Division. I am a duly authorized representative of the Custodian of Records and have authority to certify records disclosed in compliance with a subpoena.
- 2. The statements made in this Affidavit are based on the knowledge acquired by me in the performance of my official duties.
- 3. I have reviewed the subpoenas that were issued on August 15, 2022, August 17, 2022 and August 25, 2022, respectively, by defendant's counsel in this case.
- 4. The policy records sought in the subpoena issued on August 15, 2022, are available to the public on the Los Angeles Police Department's website.
- 5. The Los Angeles Police Department does not maintain a database that tracks all the persons who are referred for federal prosecution or all persons who are interrogated by any Los Angeles Police Department officer. Detective Vinton will have to recall all the individuals he has interrogated or referred for federal prosecution from his own memory and create a list for all individuals he has interrogated and all individuals he has referred for federal prosecution.
- 6. I am not able to search for and produce all responsive records for all three subpoenas in 3 weeks. I need, at minimum, 2 months to not only locate and copy all non-personnel records but to also review and redact all private information from the records.
- 7. A custodian of records from the *Pitchess* unit is responsible for retrieving and producing officer personnel records.

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the State of California and the United States, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed at Los Angeles, California on the 2nd day of September 2022.

James Sumbi

James Sumbi

980564A759CD4B0...

### **AFFIDAVIT OF DAVID VINTON**

- I, DAVID VINTON, attest as follows:
- 1. I am a detective, Serial Number 31085, with the Los Angeles Police Department West Bureau. I have been a detective with the Los Angeles Police Department for 28 years. I have personal knowledge of the principal matters covered by this affidavit. The following facts are true and correct:
- 2. I am one of the assigned Homicide Detectives for the open homicide investigation the records for which are the subject of the subpoena that was issued on August 15, 2022. The homicide occurred at a gang party on October 30, 2021.
- 3. The defendant was arrested on December 14, 2021 for the homicide that occurred on October 30, 2021, but she was subsequently released. She is no longer a suspect in the homicide investigation.
- 4. I have generated, collected and maintained the confidentiality of the investigative records for the homicide that occurred on October 30, 2021. This homicide investigation is still open and pending.
- 5. I have personally reviewed all the material in question, which are sought in the defendant's subpoena duces tecum.
- 6. The records contain information from the open homicide investigation wherein no charges have been filed.
  - 7. Disclosure will endanger the successful completion of the investigation.
- 8. Disclosure will endanger the lives of persons involved in the investigation and expose witnesses to harm of retaliation. Disclosure presents the real possibility of gang retaliation.
- 9. Disclosure presents the chance of destruction of evidence and flight of possible suspect(s) and person(s) of interest. There is a substantial risk that potential suspect(s) will be alerted about the details of LAPD's open homicide investigation, which will allow them to prepare alibis before LAPD has the opportunity to conduct interviews.
  - 9. These records are exempt from disclose under the California Public Records

Act. Government Code Section 6254 (f) because they contain confidential criminal Intelligence information collected for investigatory purposes.

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the State of California and the United States, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed at Los Angeles, California on the 31st day of August 2022.

David Vinton, Affiant

**PROOF OF SERVICE** 

I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action; my business is 200 N. Spring Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Suite 1400B, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

On September 2, 2022, I served the foregoing document described as:

NON-PARTY LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT'S NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO QUASH DEFENDANT'S SUBPOENAS; DECLARATIONS; EXHIBITS; [PROPOSED] ORDER FILED CONCURRENTLY

on the interested party(ies) in this action by placing the true copy(ies) thereof enclosed in sealed envelope(s) addressed as follows:

Waseem Salahi, FPD Federal Public Defenders Office 321 East 2nd Street Los Angeles, CA 90012-4206 Tel: 213-894-2922

- [] BY ELECTRONIC MAIL I caused such documents to be transmitted to the offices of the addressee via e-mail prior to 5:00 p.m. on the date specified above.
- [X] BY MESSENGER SERVICE I served the documents by placing them in a sealed envelope or package addressed to the persons listed above and providing them to the L.A. City Attorney's Office (in-house) messengers for service.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on September 2, 2022, at Los Angeles, California.

FERNANDO DIAZ-VELĪZ